Promoting the use of solar energy

1461. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of electricity in the county ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is unchecked use of electrical appliances in Government buildings and in big industrial units ;

(c) whether any enquiry has been held in such cases and if so, the action taken in the matter ;

(d) whether Govt. propose to promote the use of solar energy ; and

(e) if so, the details of steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes Sir, The position for the current year from April, 1993 to January, 1994 is as follows :

Requirement	266947 Million Units Net
Availability .	247095 Million units Net
Shortage .	19852 Million Units Net
Percentage .	7.4%

(b) and (c) No, Sir. No such instances have come to notice and as such no enquiry has been held.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have prepared plans for harnessing solar energy through both solar thermal & solar photovoltaic routes. During the 8th Plan, it is envisaged to take up installation of 11 lakh square metre of solar thermal collector area, 7 lakh nos. solar cookers, solars photovoltaic systems aggregating to 25 MW and a solar thermal power plant of 30 MW capacity under the new "Strategy & Action Plan" prepared by the Ministry. The steps aken include promotional policies, package of incentives, soft loans for manufacturers and users, information dissemination as well as manpower development.

Solar thermal power plant at Gaya

1462. SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for setting up a Solar Thermal Power Plant at Gaya in Bihar ;

(b) whether Government had received a project report in the matter from the Bihar Govt. in 1989 ; and

(c) if so, the details of the project and the place where it is proposed to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON 'CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Feasibility report for 2×30 MW solar thermal power plants had been received from Bihar State Electricity Board in 1989. BSEB had proposed setting up of these solar thermal power plants based on line focussing solar collector technology at Fatehpur, about 17 km. from Gaya town. Generation of power through Solar Thermal-Route is a new technology and the techno-economic viability of such power plants is first being looked into, in view of the high capital investment involved.

Scheme for wind energy estates

1463. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up "Wind Energy Estates";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the approximate cost or investment planned therefor; and

(d) the total outlay planned by the Government on this proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has asked State Governments to consider formation of Joint Sector Companies for establishment of wind energy estates with private sector, State Government and Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) as shareholders. The Joint Sector Companies would take up turn key planning, installation, operation and maintenance of individual wind turbines at a wind energy estate on behalf of small entrepreneurs/investors.

(c) and (d) The suggestion has recently been made to all potential States. Quantum of Central participation would be decided on receipt of specific proposals from them.

Tidal power from Gulf of Kutch

1464. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since given techno-economic clearance to the 900 MW Tidal Power Project in the Gulf of Kutch;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be taken up for implementation; and

(c) whether the project is proposed to be taken up in the Central Sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) The proposed 900 MW Tidal Power Plant at Gulf of Kutch, Gujarat at an estimated cost of about Rs. 6000 crores and a Plant load factor of only about 21 percent has not yet been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) and (c) The project is unlikely to be taken up for implementation in the nea r future unless the economic viability can be improved. If the economics are favourable the whole question of putting together a financing plan has to be addressed in consultation with State Government, national and international financial institutions etc.

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Technology

1465. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to set up power plants based on ocean thermal energy conversion technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; indicating the number, location cost and generating capacity thereof; and

(c) by when the first plant is likely to go operational and what is its location ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) A memorandum of understanding was signed on 24th January, 1994 between Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board with M/s Sea Solar Power (SSP), U.S.A. for purchase of Power from M/s Sea Solar Power (SSP), USA, who will build, own and operate a 100 MW floating Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Power Plant off Kulashetkharpathnam in V.O. Chidambarnar district in Tamil Nadu at a cost of about US Dollars 250 Million. M/s SSP will submit the detailed Project Report for various clearances by State and Central Government Ministries/Agencies.

(b) and (c) M/s SSP expect to commission the first OTEC plant of 100 MW capacity in about 5 to 6 years. Decision to build and locate more such OTEC plants will be taken after the performance of the first plant has been proven satisfactorily.

Proposal to develop non-conventional energy sources

1466. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI :
SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to develop Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Madhya Pradesh and other States; and

(b) if so, the details there of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implmenting a country-wide programme for development, dissemination and popularisation of various types of non-conventional energy systems and devices through State/UT Government departments/and nodal implementing agencies including in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

During 1993-94, it is proposed to take up the installation of 12,500 biogas plants, 2.30 lakh improved chulhas, 25,000 solar cookers, 2,912 square metre solar thermal collector area in the State of Madhya Pradesh. In addition, installation of solar biomass gasifiers, solar photovoltaic systems and wind pumping systems are also being taken up under various programmes of the Ministry.